

MY DEAR PRICE: I hope you and my readers will excuse the brevity of my communication, in consideration of the fact that I am now suffering under a severe attack of neuralgia in the face, from having caught cold. I have a notion to have my daguerrotype taken, as a picture of "the miserable man." I rather envy the folks who died with the cholera, because, now, at least, they are quiet, while I, with little actual sickness, have not slept half an hour for the last two days and nights, but go about like a bear with a sore head, grumbling and growling, with the occasional amusement of laughing at myself.

You will see by the date, that I now have my "local habitation" in this city of brotherly love—freedom's fight; and I may mention *en passant*, that it has rained more or less every day since I have been here, to the manifest discomfort of the politicians, who have been holding meetings every night this week. The election will take place on Tuesday next, and it is more than likely that you will hear the result, at least in part, before the *Journal* goes to press. I may however, venture to predict that the "Rough and Ready" party (the name of Whig seems to be dropped) will be completely beaten throughout the State. That such will be the case, seems to be the prevailing impression with the better informed politicians of all parties. As regards the city of Philadelphia, which has always been considered the Gibraltar of the Federal party, it seems to be the impression that the "Independent" ticket, headed by Joel Jones, Democrat, for Mayor, will succeed by a considerable majority. You know that I am opposed to all sorts of compromises and no-party movements, but if ever such a movement was called for, it was in the city of Philadelphia—Having had the disposal of the immense patronage of the Girard Estate—of the Gas and Water Works and other public works for the last seventeen years, the Federal party had so arranged matters that they could always command a majority, although really in the minority.

In regard to the Maryland election, I need not speak, as you know all about it before this time. I mention it now only on account of a circumstance which struck me at the time, and which goes to show the meaning attached to the course adopted by some Whig politicians in the South, and more especially in North Carolina. At a Whig meeting held on Thursday night, I heard a very intelligent Whig in the crowd, in alluding to the Democratic gain in Maryland and Georgia, account for the Whig loss in the Southern States, on the ground that the Whigs at the South were opposed to the further extension of slavery, and gave the Whig party of North Carolina as an example, citing the *Raleigh Register* in evidence. I mention this just as it occurred, not by way of accusation, for I cannot believe that any respectable portion of the Whigs of North Carolina, would be willing to submit to any anti-slavery restriction. Nay, I hope that even the *Register* itself, would scold the idea, but I mention it to show how much the course pursued by the Southern Whig press tends to strengthen the hands of the Proslaveryists at the North, by conveying the impression that the South herself is opposed to any further extension of slavery, and willing to join the North in any system of restriction that she may choose to devise. Indeed, so generally has this opinion become, that it is a standing rule to denounce the Democratic party as the only one which wishes to preserve the institution, as you will see by the annexed resolution, which was passed at a City mass meeting of the Federal party on Wednesday night:

Resolved, That we hate chains and shackles. The Locofocos are in favor of the extension of slavery, and upon that ground ask and receive the support of most of the slaveholding States. Their music is the crack of the lash and the shriek of the lacerated victim, though it be a woman; and their ambition to extend the dominion of wrongs at which humanity weeps, wrongs that wring tears from liberty and curses from all the civilized world. That we abhor slavery in all its shapes and shades, and protest against it and the party that would, in the name of American freedom, extend it. That the Locofocism which sanctions the brand that hies in the flesh of the slave, the whip that starts from the quivering veins of woman their red accusation to Heaven against the Cain-like wrong, and the fester that loads the unhappy oppressed to the earth—however dear to our opponents—are by us regarded with abhorrence.

This is no exception, but expresses the actual opinions of the majority of the Whigs here. I should also mention that this resolution was passed at a meeting called for the purpose of sustaining "Old Zach." But enough of this. The Tariff is the grand hobby in Pennsylvania just now. It will perhaps be four years before it becomes "an obsolete idea," but it is rapidly becoming so.—Its days are numbered.

It is remarkable the increase which has taken place in some portions of Philadelphia, within the last few years. Indeed, the growth of some portions which are dependent upon manufactures, speaks very little of ruin to that interest. A new trade has also grown up between Philadelphia and Charleston, by the means of steamships, two of which left this port in one day this week, with full freights. There will shortly be four splendid steamships in this trade. The *Columbus* and the *Carolina*, propeller vessels, and the *Oprey* and *Philadelphia*, side paddle ships. With so many facilities to reach Charleston and the Southern ports by steamship, nothing can save the through travel for the Railroad but a through line. I may say emphatically, the construction of the Manchester Road is a life and death matter with the interest of the Wilmington Road.

There are a good many people in town, but not many from the South. I have met very few Carolinians here, in fact the season is pretty much over except for the near trade. It is a strange fact in regard both to this place and New York, that there is seldom any business done on the week immediately preceding an election.

In the matter even of amusements, everything seems to be in some measure at a stand. The only attraction of any importance, is Fanny Kemble Butler's Shakspearean readings. Mrs. Kemble, as she now calls herself, is undoubtedly a woman of talent, but has no earthly pretensions to beauty. She looks very like that generally unlovable character, a

strong minded woman who knows it, and will have her own way.

The Dry Dock at this Navy Yard is progressing rapidly—it will be an immense work, when finished. I believe that a contract has been made to finish it for \$800,000. It is said that the contractors will make \$100,000 by the operation. By the way, I wonder if all marines are Germans. In attempting to go into the yard two minutes before one, when it is opened for visitors, I was stopped by a sentry with a strong German accent, who politely presented a bayonet to my abdomen, informing me at the same time that I could not go in—his argument was conclusive, and I acknowledged its force by staying out until one o'clock. By some strange coincidence, all the sentries I met were Germans, and all equally convincing.

By the way, it is raining now, and every body looks gloomy. Even the shirt-collars of the fashionable hang down, and chickens hide under market wagons. I have got the blues, and feel too bad to write any more. On my return I expect to stop a day or two in Washington City, and see what I can see.

Yours &c. J. F.

T. IRON.—The first cargo of T. Iron, (273 tons), bought in England, on account of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, arrived at this port on the 6th inst., in the brig *Albemarle*, from Cardiff, England. We hope the Company will lose no time in laying it down on the Road. Once the Road is relayed with this description of iron, and the Wilmington and Manchester Road completed, there can be no doubt but the Stockholders will begin to realize some benefit for the outlay which they have long since made; or, to say the least of it, the Road will begin to pay its debts. This we believe is the impression of those more conversant with the matter than we are.

THE "ALBANY CULTIVATOR."—We have received a number of this invaluable agricultural paper, and take great pleasure in placing it upon our exchange list. We shall make copious extracts from the "Cultivator."

We would also be pleased to have the pleasure of exchanging with the "American Farmer."

It is our intention to make the agricultural department of the *Journal* as interesting to our agricultural readers as our space will admit of. We have an excellent article on agriculture in keeping for our next number.

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE.—A negro man named Jacob, the property of John F. Spicer, Esq., of Onslow county, but, at the time, in the employ of Mr. Prigden, residing on Topsail Sound, attempted to make his escape on board the brig *Marshall*, on Friday last. The brig was bound to Lisbon, Portugal. It was, no doubt, the impression of the stevedore, Sandy Urquhart, and three other negroes, who stowed the vessel, that she was bound to a Northern port, as she was loaded with Robin barrels. A place was prepared for Jacob immediately aft the foremast, where he was provided with a bountiful supply of provisions. He was accidentally discovered by the Steward of the vessel, a white man, who immediately informed the Captain of the fact. The Captain suffered no delay in taking the legal steps to have Jacob apprehended, but before he was enabled to obtain the services of an officer, the negro escaped from the vessel. He was, however, apprehended by the Steward and officer Holden. Officers Burch and Holden deserve the thanks of the community for the prompt manner in which they discharged their duty in this matter. The Steward of the brig also deserves the sympathies of our citizens for the manner in which he acted, in letting the Captain know the fact that a slave was concealed on board his vessel, and afterwards securing the boy, after he had made his escape. His conduct will, we have reason to believe, be properly appreciated by every good citizen. The stevedore, Sandy, and also Dave Urquhart, have been committed to jail, to undergo trial at our next Superior Court. The two other negroes employed in stowing the vessel, after an investigation before a magistrate, were discharged.

FLORIDA INDIANS.—The Tallahassee *Journal*, of the 29th ultimo, says that the Indians failed to meet Gen. Twiggs at Sara Soto, on the 18th of September, but invited Gen. T., through Capt. Casey, to meet them on the 19th of October, for a conference. The *Journal* thinks the Indians are acting treacherously, and do not have any intention of removing. The *Journal* also says that a letter had been received by the Governor from Fort Galien, which gave intelligence of an attack by three Indians upon Capt. Jennigan, about eleven miles from that place. The Captain was fired at several times from the distance of about 60 yards, and only saved his life by taking shelter, and finding concealment in a piece of woods.

HURRICANE.—We learn from gentlemen residing in Topsail Sound district, that a destructive hurricane passed through the country, in that neighborhood, on Saturday last, blowing down fences, feller and pea stacks, and several out-houses—making almost a complete breach amongst the forest, to the breadth of about two hundred and fifty yards, crossing the Northern road. We learn that a similar hurricane visited the same section of country about 12 or 15 years ago, though not doing so much damage as the one on Saturday last. We learn also that a severe hurricane was experienced in the upper part of this county a few days since.

EX-CONGRESSMEN DEAD.—Three members from Ohio, of the last Congress, have died since the adjournment of that body on the 4th of March last, viz: Rudolphus Dickinson, of the Sandusky district; Daniel Duncan, of the Licking district; and John C. Cummins, of the Tuscarawas district.

THE NATIONAL RAILROAD CONVENTION to take into consideration the construction of a railroad from St. Louis to the Pacific, will assemble at St. Louis on the 15th of this month, October.

HEALTH OF CHARLESTON.—The *Courier* of the 10th inst., says that there were 18 deaths by Strangers' Fever, during the week ending on the 6th inst. Of these it will be seen that 8 were natives of Ireland, 4 of Germany, 4 of Scotland and 2 of the United States. Eight of the eighteen died in the City Hospital, being a strong evidence that the disease prevails principally among those who are not careful in their habits, and do not seek medical attendance promptly.

GEORGIA ELECTIONS.—The result of the elections in Georgia, on the 1st instant, is truly gratifying to the Democracy. Governor Towns is re-elected by an increased majority of at least fifteen hundred votes over his majority in 1847, his present majority being about 3,000 or more. The Legislature is also Democratic. This is truly cheering news! Every lover of pure principles cannot but be gratified to see Georgia once more placed, as the Charleston Mercury very aptly remarks, where she properly belongs, under the guidance of the Democratic party; not merely because it is a well-merited vote of approval of her prudent, able and faithful Chief Magistrate; these are domestic considerations that belong more to the Georgians at home. But to the Democratic party of the whole South, of the Union, this result is full of interest, because it places Georgia beside Virginia, Tennessee and Alabama, in the emphatic rebuke of an Administration that stole into power under profuse pledges of moderation, and have exercised it with a proscriptiveness beyond the example of party. We have had the judgment of more than one-half the South on this last fraud of Whigery, and we anticipate that the voices of the remainder will be like these. Maryland, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, will follow these bright and noble examples, and will give to the Southern Delegation in Congress the power to speak with effect on the great questions impending, that involve their safety and their honor. In this aspect the moral worth of the Georgia Election cannot be over-estimated. The two candidates for Governor were interrogated some weeks before the election on all the aspects of the slavery question. Gov. Towns' reply was immediate, able, comprehensive, and in all respects such as became a Southern statesman. Judge Hill never replied at all. Doubtless he was so instructed by his party. The game of concealment, and non-commitment, had succeeded admirably with Gen. Taylor; it gave his friends in every nook and corner of the Union, the liberty of pleading him to the peculiar, orthodox and heterodoxes of all sorts of men, and of claiming his silence as the proof that he had not misrepresented him. A game so cheap and successful, was worth playing while his luck lasted. Judge Hill was a man singularly amiable, kindly, affable, charming all that approached him—personally the most popular man in Georgia. Why not elect Gen. Taylor over again? Free him from the odium of a distinct declaration of Whig principles, assure him the support of the Whig party, and leave the rest to his personal popularity. It was an admirable scheme, but unfortunately for its success, it had been played off before, with results just unfolding to the astonished and indignant eyes of the people. No party can have a patent for deluding the people in perpetuity on the same model, and the second exhibition of the Whig device was received with the scorn and derision that usually greets the exhibition of stale jugglery. The Whigs must invent a new cheat as often as they expect fresh success.

P. S.—Our latest advices from Georgia state, that all the counties in that State have been heard from, and that Towns' majority is 3500 over Hill. The Senate stands 25 Democrats to 22 Federalists; and the House of Representatives 67 Democrats to 63 Federalists. Majority on joint ballot 7. No U. S. Senator to elect this year.

MARYLAND.—The Democracy of old Maryland deserve all praise from their brethren throughout the Union. Most nobly have they fought and won the day. Old Baltimore city has most gloriously triumphed. The entire delegation from the city, both to Congress and the State Legislature, is Democratic. This, indeed, cheering news to the cause of "Democratic principles," and we echo back to our brethren of that city, "all honor to Baltimore for her glorious victory." The delegation to Congress from the State, stands 3 Democrats to 3 Federalists, being a gain of one Democratic member. The following is a list of the representatives elected to Congress: 1st District—Bowie (F.) elected—no opp. 2nd do.—Hamilton (D.) elected—150 maj. 3rd do.—Hammond (D.) " 2300 " 4th do.—McLane (D.) " 951 " 5th do.—Evans (F.) " 506 " 6th do.—Kerr (F.) " no opp.

In the Legislature, the old Senators hold over; the election was for members to the House of Delegates only. The last House had 30 Federal majority. Our gains, although large, beyond expectation, is not sufficient to counterbalance the large Federal majority of the last Legislature. The Sun says that returns from the entire State have been received, and that the net Democratic gain of members to the House is 10, which reduces the former large Federal majority down to 9. The Federal majority on joint ballot is reported to be 21, which, of course, enables them to elect a Federal Senator to Congress. Our friends have acted most nobly throughout the whole State, and we shall see what kind of a United States Senator will be sent from Maryland. Whether he is in favor of a high Tariff, National Bank, Wilmot Proviso, Internal Improvements, or whether he will endorse the acts of the corrupt cabal at Washington. Time will show.

CONNECTICUT.—The Columbian (New Haven) Register, of the 6th instant, says that most of the towns in this State held their annual elections on the 1st inst. Returns from 54 towns show a net Democratic gain of 10, as compared with similar elections a year ago.

ROUND ISLANDERS.—It is stated that the men lately assembled at Round Island are rapidly dispersing; many of them have returned to New Orleans—the purpose for which they assembled having been defeated or postponed.

TROOPS FOR FLORIDA.—The Tallahassee *Florida* and *Journal* censures Mr. Secretary Crawford severely for the course he has pursued in the recent Florida troubles, in refusing to accept of volunteers for the temporary defence of the frontier, on the ground that he had ordered eight companies from various posts on the Gulf and the Atlantic. The *Journal* states that the whole effective force under the command of Gen. Twiggs is less than one thousand men. Out of 28 or 30 companies of regulars ordered to Florida, not one-half of the thousand effective men are suited to the service required, they being principally artillery companies, which have been proved unfit to subdue Indians and bring them under subjection.

Wonder if the Chronicle will find fault with us for giving place to the above item?

"A FEW WORDS TO THE DEMOCRATS."—Under this caption, the *Raleigh Register*, of the 6th inst., exhorts the Democrats of North Carolina to be lenient with the Federal dynasty at Washington. It asks, "Why should these [Democratic] papers persist in contending for principles which the majority of the people do not care to have sustained?" Now, this is about the coolest piece of impudence we have met with for many a day. The people do not care to have Democratic principles "sustained." When did the Democrats repudiate the principles of the constitution, Mr. Register? Certainly not when Gen. Taylor was elected President. In that contest the Federalists fought the battle in the dark, and Gen. Taylor succeeded in being made President through false pledges to moderation in his administration—revealing no principles to the public eye—together with his military honors, won in a war in which the Register helped to give "aid and comfort to the enemy," and cursing the war as an unholy, damnable war. Gen. Taylor was not elected by a majority of the people, as the Register asserts. If he will turn back to the popular vote, he will find that his President is in considerable of a minority. Besides, not an election has been held since Gen. Taylor's inauguration, but what the Democrats have either obtained a majority or made very considerable gains. Look, for instance, at Maryland and Georgia, which States voted only last week. This shows the confidence the people have in Gen. Taylor's administration. We tell the Register that Democrats will never cease battling for their principles; nor will they lay them in the shade for the purpose of obtaining the "reins" of the government. The people have never decided against Democratic principles. It is true, the Democracy have, since the formation of the constitution which governs them in their actions, been defeated once or twice within the last twenty years, but this was done through the chicanery of the Federal party, in revealing no principles, and assuming false colors and false names, under which they fought their battles. The Register knows this to be the truth, and yet that paper asks North Carolina Democrats to cease contending for their "principles." Why, Mr. Register, you are about the brightest youth we know of. But you say we can give the "President and Whig principles a fair trial, which is all we (you) ask." Well, we have tried your President six months, and we find that he has violated every pledge he made. He promised not to be a party President. He has violated this pledge by drawing around him for advisers a cabinet of noted Federalists and Abolitionists. He promised, in his inaugural address, that "honesty, capacity, and fidelity," should be "indispensable prerequisites to the bestowal of office;" and we find him hurrying from office men of irreproachable character, who are well qualified for the stations which they have filled, and bawling Whig politicians put in their places, who are even less capable of filling their places than Gen. Taylor is in filling the Chief Magistracy of this great nation.—This is the kind of a President—to say nothing of the palpable blunders he has committed in our foreign affairs—that the *Raleigh Register* asks North Carolina Democrats to give a "fair trial." Out upon such hypocrisy. As for "Whig" principles, the people have so often repudiated them that they are scarcely worth wasting paper and ink in writing about. They are "obsolete ideas."

THE LATE FOREIGN NEWS.—We publish on our fourth page, telegraphic dispatches of the news per *Canada*, from Europe. "It will be seen that the Sultan of Turkey has refused to comply with the demand of the Russian Ambassador, to give up the Hungarian refugees under his protection, notwithstanding the attempt, on the part of Russia and Austria, combined, to bully her into a compliance. A council had been held, and the Turkish government had resolved 'that the refugees should not be given up, let the consequences be what they might.' The Sultan of Turkey has, no doubt, been prompted in his determination of taking this noble stand, through the impression that Turkey will be backed by England, and, possibly, by the United States. We do not know what course the United States would pursue in a case of this kind.—Her known policy is to preserve neutrality in the affairs of other countries, as well as to 'evade any entangling alliance' as we think that if she could, with prudence, without departing materially from her neutral position, aid the Turkish government, in her laudable and humane intention, she would do so. England can, with propriety, aid Turkey. And should she conclude to do so, she will not only teach Russia a lesson that a war with Turkey for such a cause is contrary to the acts of humanity and the general usages of nations, but by such a course she will be justly entitled to the gratitude of all the nations of Christendom.

CONDEMNATION OF THE ASTOR PLACE RIOTS.—After a session of nearly three weeks continuance, the trial of Judson and his associates, for the murderous riot at the Astor Place Theatre, in New York city, on the 10th of May last, closed on Friday, the 28th ult. The jury, after an absence of two or three hours, returned with a verdict of guilty, against all the defendants. On the Saturday following, the presiding Judge passed the sentence of the law. Judson, the ringleader, was sentenced to experience the full rigor of the law, which is confinement for one year in the penitentiary, and a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars. His associates were more leniently dealt with, being variously punished, only to the extent of a few months imprisonment at most. By the decision of the jury in this case, the sovereignty of the law has been fully established, and, we think, a lesson taught the evil minded, that the consequences attendant upon an encroachment upon civil law, in the kicking up of a riot, is terrible. Though the rioters have been convicted and will be punished for their misdemeanor, yet public opinion in New York is far from being appeased. The city authorities are loudly called to, in order to crush the riot; and the Herald says that the blood of the innocent persons who were massacred on that melancholy occasion, still cries for satisfaction against the city authorities, by whose folly, weakness, and imbecility, the riot was allowed to proceed, until it ended in a tragedy of blood and sorrow.

JUDSON DIVORCED.—In the New York Court of Common Pleas, on Saturday, Anna Judson was divorced from her husband, Edward J. C. Judson, on account of various acts of ill-treatment. Judson is the man that has been convicted and sentenced to the Penitentiary, on account of his connection with the Astor Place Riots in New York, on the 10th of last May.

GOV. MOSLEY.—We notice in the papers that Gov. Mosley, of Florida, has contracted a loan of \$20,000, on his individual responsibility, with the Banks of Charleston, to defray the expenses of the Florida volunteers in the service of that State during the late Indian disturbances.

CUBA.—Files of the *Gaceta de la Habana*, received at New York on the 4th inst., breaks the silence heretofore observed by the Havana papers, and discourses, in a very laudatory tone, on the action of the President in quashing the expedition which, it is surmised, was to operate against Cuba. The comment of the *Gaceta* possesses a very striking singularity. While it speaks in commendation of the action of this government, in pursuing a course which, that paper says, was demanded by the rights of nations, and the treaties existing between the American Union and Spain and Mexico, it asserts that the citizens of Cuba could not appreciate the action of this Government if it did not protest against the attempts of the criminal adventures, and prove to the world that every single inhabitant of Cuba was filled with indignation at the attempts, as it says, "of these wretches who wish, in this, the nineteenth century, to repeat the execrable deeds of the buccaners of old." The *Gaceta* says that "the peace and well-being which we enjoy under the shade of the glorious flag which waves over us, shall not be lightly altered; our coasts are guarded and watched in every part, and any enemies who intend to place a foot on this land, inhabited and defended as it is by a people to whom loyalty has, in all times, been a part of their religion, will quickly be exterminated." The *Gaceta* professes to be the faithful interpreter of the views and principles of the citizens of Cuba, for it goes on to say, "poorly would we fulfill our mission, if, from ill-judged modesty, we were to omit repeating that, behind the most numerous, brilliant, and warlike army in America, which is now on this island, and whose mere presence would fill the minds of these adventurers with terror—behind this army, we say, we have still another more numerous one, though not more loyal or valiant, for in every Spanish subject we have a soldier;" and yet, with this powerful army, whose very presence is sufficient to strike terror into the hearts of any who dare assume a hostile position to the Spanish government, Cuba is thrown into convulsions at the report that a handful of vagrants had assembled together in the United States, and concocted plans for the invasion of that island. As for the loyalty of the Cubans, if it could be put to the test they would soon be found throwing off the yoke of Spain and hoisting the broad stars and stripes of the United States, for full well do we know that their citizens have long wanted to become annexed to this country, not caring whether it be accomplished by purchase or by conquest; and with this understanding on the part of the Cubans, as well also as the desire of the citizens of this country, our Minister to Madrid, Mr. Barringer, has been instructed, it is reported, by his government, to open negotiations for the purchase of Cuba.

THE ARRIVALS OF AMERICAN VESSELS at California, during the month of August, had been considerable. The number is set down at 79, of ships, barques, brigs, and schooners.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES IN N. YORK AND WILMINGTON.—The Stables of Mr. Johnson, in 15th street, New York City, were consumed by fire on the 28th ult., together with 160 cows, 15 horses and two human beings.—Another fire occurred on the evening of the 30th ult., at No. 20, New street, Cotton store of Messrs. Fox and Livingston. A large quantity of the Cotton was saved. Another, on Friday morning, the 28th ult., at No. 39, Stone street, destroying the upper part of the building.

AT WILLIAMSBURG, on Saturday, 29th ult., a fire broke out in the Stables of Perrine, Patterson and Stack, Water street. The loss of property consumed was very great, being estimated at \$200,000, only about 38,000 of which was insured.

FIRE AT VICKSBURG.—The Vicksburg Sentinel announces "one of the most calamitous and destructive fires by which Vicksburg has ever been visited." It occurred on the 21st, and destroyed about twenty buildings in the business part of the city. Loss not known.

NORTHERN TOUR.—From a telegraphic dispatch in the Baltimore papers, we learn that Gen. Taylor has determined on completing his Northern tour before the meeting of Congress. He was to have (and we suppose he did), left Washington on Thursday, he in Baltimore on that day, New York on the 15th, and Boston on the 20th. In connection with the President's second attempt to complete his tour North, the Union very judiciously remarks:—

"Meantime, what becomes of the ticklish condition of our relations in France? What of our affairs in Russia and in Cuba? And how is the President's message advancing? President Polk returned from his northern tour in 1847 on the 7th of July, and we know it was early in the autumn that he began to prepare his admirable message. Is General Taylor more *au fait* in such things than he was? Should General Taylor be absent three weeks, he will scarcely have a month for the composition of his message. Who, then, is to prepare it for him? Who is to take charge of our foreign relations? What pilot is to guide the ship during his absence? The regency, of course."

FROM CALIFORNIA.

By telegraphic dispatches to the Charleston *Courier*, we learn that there has been two arrivals of steamers at New Orleans from Charleston; the steamer *Alabama*, which left on the 28th ultimo, and the *Falcon*, which left about the 1st instant, and arrived in New Orleans on the 6th, in the extraordinary quick passage of 5 days and 18 hours. The *Falcon* brought gold dust to the amount of \$70,000, a large mail, and 53 passengers.

The summary of the news per *Falcon* is as follows:—At the last dates from San Francisco, Gen. Smith had gone on an expedition to the mountains of Sierra Nevada, and Col. Fremont was at Monterey. Col. Weller was at San Francisco on business connected with his commission, and was to return to San Diego, to prosecute the running of the boundary line. Moore, the new Postmaster for San Francisco, had entered upon his duties. Lieut. Beall, the bearer of despatches from Washington, had arrived at Gen. Smith's headquarters at San Francisco. Commodore Jones is stationed at San Francisco. Charles James, the newly appointed commissioner to the Sandwich Islands, was to proceed thither from San Francisco, in the *St. Mary's*.

The Ex-Governor and Ex-Minister to Mexico, Shannon, is working mines at Manco.—T. B. King was dangerously ill of bilious fever, and his recovery was considered rather doubtful. Much sickness prevailed at the mines, but the number of gold washers at the Sierra Nevada streams had greatly increased. In the space of three days, the mining association at North Fork dam had realized the sum of \$15,000. A disposition prevailed, on the part of the miners, to expel the Peruvians and Chilians from the mining community, and they had already been routed from the Middle and North Forks. The advices from the North and Middle works are very favorable; a party of 20 were averaging \$45 per day, each. The old miners, on Middle Fork, are operating with sub-marine armor, by which contrivance they manage to take out ten thousand dollars per day. It is estimated that about 15,000 men are working in the Sacramento, and it is estimated that, within the year ending next January, they will have obtained about twenty millions of dollars.

On the 28th August, 18 sailors made their escape from the U. S. ship *Ohio*, in one of her boats. They were fired upon, and 9 of their number wounded, but they succeeded in getting off from the ship and making their way to the diggings.

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BY THE HON. HENRY L. ELSWORTH, late Charge d'Affaires of the United States to Stockholm, has returned home to his residence in the State of Indiana. It will be recollected that this gentleman was recalled in consequence of the publication of certain slanders, alleging that he had made use of his diplomatic privileges for smuggling purposes, which charge resulted in a thorough investigation of the affair, and notwithstanding his triumphant vindication from the charge preferred against him by the government of Stockholm, he was recalled by the Administration, and has retired to the State of Indiana. The injustice which has been dealt out by the Government to that gentleman, should certainly be counter-balanced, and we hope that justice will yet be meted out to him.

CANADA.—We learn from the *New York Herald*, of the 4th instant, that Lord Elgin, the Governor of Canada, endeavored to obtain a conference with President Taylor at Niagara. His intention was to prevail upon the President to recommend a bill of reciprocity between the United States and Canada, in his message of next December. The Governor failed in obtaining a conference with the President, but it is hinted that this object might possibly be attained through Mr. Crampton, if he succeeds in the adjustment of the Nicaragua question, as also the settlement of "our miscellaneous squabbles with foreign nations generally, except Russia and Spain, with whom, thanks to the devil, we still continue check by jowl."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES IN N. YORK AND WILMINGTON.—The Stables of Mr. Johnson, in 15th street, New York City, were consumed by fire on the 28th ult., together with 160 cows, 15 horses and two human beings.—Another fire occurred on the evening of the 30th ult., at No. 20, New street, Cotton store of Messrs. Fox and Livingston. A large quantity of the Cotton was saved. Another, on Friday morning, the 28th ult., at No. 39, Stone street, destroying the upper part of the building.

AT WILLIAMSBURG, on Saturday, 29th ult., a fire broke out in the Stables of Perrine, Patterson and Stack, Water street. The loss of property consumed was very great, being estimated at \$200,000, only about 38,000 of which was insured.

FIRE AT VICKSBURG.—The Vicksburg Sentinel announces "one of the most calamitous and destructive fires by which Vicksburg has ever been visited." It occurred on the 21st, and destroyed about twenty buildings in the business part of the city. Loss not known.

NORTHERN TOUR.—From a telegraphic dispatch in the Baltimore papers, we learn that Gen. Taylor has determined on completing his Northern tour before the meeting of Congress. He was to have (and we suppose he did), left Washington on Thursday, he in Baltimore on that day, New York on the 15th, and Boston on the 20th. In connection with the President's second attempt to complete his tour North, the Union very judiciously remarks:—

"Meantime, what becomes of the ticklish condition of our relations in France? What of our affairs in Russia and in Cuba? And how is the President's message advancing? President Polk returned from his northern tour in 1847 on the 7th of July, and we know it was early in the autumn that he began to prepare his admirable message. Is General Taylor more *au fait* in such things than he was? Should General Taylor be absent three weeks, he will scarcely have a month for the composition of his message. Who, then, is to prepare it for him? Who is to take charge of our foreign relations? What pilot is to guide the ship during his absence? The regency, of course."

Alleged Government Defaulter.—A Washington correspondent of the New York *Courier*, states that in August last, the second Comptroller of the Treasury examined the accounts of Hon. Isaac Hill, late pension agent at Concord, New Hampshire, which examination proved that gentleman a defaulter to the government in the sum of \$13,000. The third Auditor was thereupon instructed to demand of Mr. Hill immediate payment of the amount, and, in case of refusal, to furnish a transcript of his accounts for suit. It was, some time since, however, positively denied that Mr. Hill was a defaulter.

We clip the above paragraph from the Baltimore Sun. We have seen a similar statement going the rounds of the Federal press, at the same time censuring Mr. Polk for not prosecuting the matter during his term. Now we, of course, do not pretend to say Mr. Hill is not a defaulter—if he is such, he should be punished accordingly—but we believe as yet, notwithstanding the cry of the Federal press against various Democratic office-holders, under Mr. Polk, for defalcations, that not a single case has been established.

A rule that works both ways is considered to be good, and we think the suggestions contained in the following article, from *Richards' Weekly Gazette*, deserves the attention of Congress, as the use of a small silver coin, in combination with dimes and half-dimes, to effect payments in the fractional parts of a dollar, would be a great public convenience, by displacing the disagreeable copper coins now in use. The name of the coin is of but very little consequence:—

The *Septicent*.—We beg leave to call the attention of government to the importance of issuing a new silver coin, of the value of seven cents, to which, for the sake of analogy, in the nomenclature of the federal currency, we suggest the name of the *Septicent*. The use of copper coins in making small change is generally felt to be an annoyance, and more so, that account, perhaps, than any other, they are not used at all in the South, unless it may be in the larger towns, and there only to a limited extent. It is, however, oftentimes extremely inconvenient to get along without them, as for example, in pre-paying a newspaper, or taking out a drop-letter, and in numberless other cases.

The issue of a septicent would obviate all these difficulties, and the use of silver fractional parts of the dollar, make every sum that can be desired for practical purposes. It is evident, that with our present federal coins, of silver, no combinations will enable the holder to pay either one, two, three, four, six, seven, eight, or nine cents, without receiving copper coins in exchange. Let us now examine the result of a combination of septicents with dimes and half-dimes, and see if the use of copper will not be rendered entirely unnecessary. We annex a table, embracing eight propositions to pay from 1 to 9 cents—omitting the 5 and 7—using only silver coins:

To pay 1 cent, give 1 one-half dime, and receive 2 septicents.
To pay 2 cents, give 1 septicent and receive 1-2 dime.
To pay 3 cents, give 1 dime and receive 1 septicent.
To pay 4 cents, give 2 septicents and receive 1 dime.
To pay 6 cents, give 2 dimes and receive 2 septicents.
To pay 8 cents, give 1 and 1-2 dimes and receive 1 septicent.
To pay 9 cents, give 2 septicents and receive 1-2 dime.

This table embraces every possible contingency in which copper coin would be required, and we think it would add vastly to the public convenience to have such an addition as we here propose, made to the national coinage. We commend this subject, at all events, to the consideration of financiers, and of our contemporaries.

IMPORTANT TO MARINERS.—The following report, transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, will be interesting to mariners on this coast, who may not already be conversant with the facts it contains:

COAST SURVEY STATION.

(Near North Deerfield, N. H.) July 25, 1849.
SIR: In consequence of the information received from Lieutenant Commanding Moffitt, and already reported to you, in regard to the important discovery made in 1846 south of Cape Hatteras, I have had a reconnaissance made of it by Lieutenant Commanding James Alden, U. S. N., Assistant in the Coast survey, which confirms the previous statement of the value of this inlet as a harbor of refuge. The report of Lieut. Alden contains the following statements of interest to navigators.

"This opening bears from Hatteras light S. 70 degrees W., distant about twelve miles. It will be easily recognised by the remarkably round hammock, covered with trees, on the east side of the entrance. The least depth at low water on the bar, is fourteen feet. It should be approached from the northward and eastward, and as the breakers seldom extend directly across the entrance, it can be readily discovered by the smoothness of the water between them; at that point steer N. W., keeping along the breakers on the starboard land until well in; then haul more to the northward, and anchor soon after inside the sand pits, which form the entrance, and which together with the bar outside, afford sufficient protection against all winds from that quarter. The best anchorage, however, for a vessel drawing ten feet water is where the schooner's first position is marked on the chart, and where the current will be felt much less than in midchannel. The currents and tides are influenced very much by the winds; the greatest velocity we found was three knots between the two sand pits; the mean rise and fall was 2.2 feet.

"There are two openings; the one to the westward is small and has a very narrow and intricate channel, and must be considered of little or no importance while so near a much finer and better one.

"Good pilots can be obtained for Hatteras Inlet at any time."